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TO : United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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MESSAGE

In connection with Serial No. 10/561,329:  
Preliminary Amendment.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Seiichi KOGURE et al.

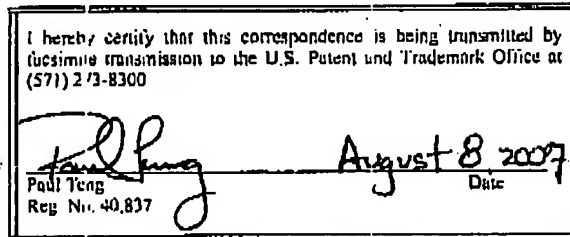
Serial No.: 10/561,329

Group Art Unit: 2861

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Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter this Amendment in connection with the application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Replacement sheets of drawings for Figures 2, 8, and 15 are attached hereto as Exhibit A.